

Memorandum

To: Eligible Applicants
From: David Ripperda, Assistant Director of Projects & Programming
Dana Turrey, Senior Transportation Planner
Re: Call for Projects for FYE 2025 Transportation Fund for Clean Air, TFCA 40% Fund
Date: February 8, 2024

**APPLICATIONS DUE TO DAVID RIPPERDA VIA EMAIL David.Ripperda@scta.ca.gov
BY MARCH 22, 2024**

Call for Transportation Fund for Clean Air Projects

Eligible jurisdictions, per the Distribution Criteria below, are invited to submit applications for the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) County Program Manager Fund for Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2025.

Background

In 1991, the California State Legislature authorized the Air District to impose a \$4 surcharge on cars and trucks registered within the Air District's jurisdiction to provide grant funding to eligible projects that reduce on-road motor vehicle emissions. The statutory authority for the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA), and requirements of the program are set forth in California Health and Safety Code Sections 44241 and 44242. The SCTA programs local projects for the TFCA 40% Fund (40% of the total funding). The other 60% funds a regional program administered by BAAQMD.

Distribution Criteria

In October 2006, the SCTA Board set the criteria for the distribution of TFCA funding to guarantee funding for ongoing bus transit programs. The SCTA Board adjusted this criterion in December 2013 to include Petaluma Transit in the guaranteed portion of the distribution. For the FYE 2025 Call for Projects, SCTA is issuing one single call for projects with no changes to the distribution or prioritization. The entire amount of funding must be programmed.

All applicants may submit proposals for this call for projects. Eligible applicants and the distribution are as follows:

Guaranteed Funding

1. Local bus transit operators – Santa Rosa Transit, Sonoma County Transit, and Petaluma Transit – receive guaranteed “off-the-top” funding for transit programs based on their annually updated population totals.

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2. If local bus transit operators are not able to use the full amount of their guaranteed funding with cost-effective projects, remaining funds may be moved to the competitive program.

Competitive Funding

1. Jurisdictions and other public entities with projects serving Windsor, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sonoma, Sebastopol, or multiple jurisdictions within the Sonoma County BAAQMD air basin¹ receive priority for the competitive portion of the funding.
2. County of Sonoma, City of Santa Rosa, City of Petaluma may apply for the competitive portion of the funding; however, these applications will only be considered if competitive funds are not fully subscribed by projects in part one of the competitive funding distribution. Projects in the unincorporated County must be within the BAAQMD air basin.

If qualified applications are received above the amount of funding available for this year, SCTA may consider programming future funds for eligible projects through this Call for Projects.

FYE 2025 TFCA Distribution

Santa Rosa Transit	County Transit	Petaluma Transit	Competitive	Total Allocation
40.83%	23.39%	13.64%	22.14%	100%
\$255,974	\$146,613	\$85,540	\$138,806	\$626,933

Project Types

Funds are available for the following project types:

- **Trip Reduction** - includes transit, shuttle, feeder bus, transit bus signal priority, first- and last-mile connections, vanpool, carpool, rail-bus integration, telecommuting, congestion pricing, transportation demand management, smart growth, traffic calming, and other trip reducing pilot projects.
- **Bicycle** - includes Class I, II, Buffered Class II, III, and IV bicycle facilities, bicycle parking, or bike share.
- **Clean Air Vehicle and Infrastructure** - includes alternative fuel vehicles, scrapping old vehicles, and alternative fuel infrastructure.
- **Infrastructure Improvements for Trip Reduction** – physical improvements identified in approved plan, resulting in motor vehicle emission reductions (includes pedestrian improvements).
- **Engine Replacement (Repower) and Retrofit** - replace an old engine with a new, emission-certified engine or retrofit it with an emission control device.

¹ Projects must be within the BAAQMD air basin - https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?amp%3Bmsa=0&mid=1gqmSHO264UhqsK9iCKm_SCq6aRY&ll=38.15517110116872%2C-122.36761244461323&z=10.

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General Requirements

- Consistency with TFCA County Program Manager Fund Policies for FYE 2025
- Interim reports due in October 2025 and each following October while project is active. Final reports due in May for projects closing the previous July through December or in October for projects closing the previous January through June.
- Administrative costs are eligible for administration of a program; however, funds may not be used for grant administration. Project sponsors may not use TFCA funds for grant application, administration, invoicing, or reporting. TFCA 40% Fund Policy #16, regarding administrative costs, refers to SCTA's administration of the program and does not include project sponsors.
- EV charging infrastructure funding is limited to public parking spaces reserved for EVs only.

FYE 2025 Updates

In addition to minor technical updates, the Air District made the following updates to the TFCA County Program Manager Fund Policies in the FYE 2025 Guidance:

- Remove On-Road Truck Replacement (policy #25), given that this category no longer provides surplus emission reductions because it is already mandated in the Truck and Bus Regulation, which requires nearly all trucks and buses to have 2010 or newer model year engines by January 1, 2023.
- Define and expand Priority Areas to include, not only Highly Impacted Communities or Episodic Areas as defined by the Air District's Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) Program, but also Assembly Bill 617 communities and Priority Populations defined by SB 535 disadvantaged communities and AB 1550 low-income communities.
- Continue providing subgrantees with an extended 24 months to commence their projects (policy #6) and clarify that this time allowance also applies to projects that are directly sponsored by the administering agencies.
- Simplify the design guidelines so that local and state standards would need to be followed for bikeways (policy #30); and allow upgrades from either a Class III or Class II (non-buffered) bikeway to a Class II buffered bike lane.
- Clarify what qualifies as an Infrastructure Improvement for Trip Reduction project (policy #33).

Approvals Process

The applications and a staff recommendation for Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program of Projects are presented to and approved by the SCTA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Transit Technical Advisory Committee (T-TAC). The SCTA Board must pass a resolution of approval for the TFCA Program of Projects, which is then submitted to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) for approval. *SCTA does not require local resolutions of support with project applications.*

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Application Materials

1. Project Information Form
2. Cost Effectiveness Worksheet (*by project type: Trip Reduction, Arterial Management, Vehicles ≤14,000 lbs., Vehicles >14,000 lbs., Electric-Vehicle Infrastructure*)
3. TFCA County Program Manager Fund Policies for FYE 2025
 - a. Appendix D Air District Policies
 - b. Appendix F Insurance Guidelines
 - c. Appendices G – H Project Information Form and Cost-Effectiveness Worksheet instructions

Application materials are available online at www.scta.ca.gov/projects/funding.

Application Instructions

Please submit the following application materials in Word and Excel formats via email to David Ripperda at David.Ripperda@scta.ca.gov.

1. Project Information Form (Word)
2. Cost Effectiveness Worksheets (Excel)
 - a. Use FYE 2025 worksheets. Do not use worksheets from prior years.
 - b. Fill out the following THREE (3) tabs in the Excel worksheet; (i) General Information, (ii) Emission Factors, (iii) Notes and Assumptions
 - c. Use TFCA 40% Fund Guidance Appendix H as guidance to complete Cost Effectiveness Worksheets

Please direct questions to David Ripperda at David.Ripperda@scta.ca.gov.

FYE 2025 TFCA Schedule

February 8	Call for Projects Released
March 22	Deadline for TFCA Project Application Forms to SCTA
April 10 / 25	T-TAC and TAC reviews and recommends program of projects to SCTA Board
May 13	SCTA Board considers the FYE 2024 TFCA Program of Projects
May – August	Contract between BAAQMD and SCTA signed, then contracts between SCTA and Project Sponsors signed
Upon Contract Execution	Project expenses may be incurred
Upon SCTA's Receipt of 1st Check from BAAQMD	Reimbursement requests may be processed. Funds must be expended within 2 years of receipt of 1st BAAQMD check received by SCTA (usually October-December). Project sponsors will be notified via email.